

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:07pm. Executive Session, Mr. Green called the meeting to order. Dr. Gifford made a motion to go into executive session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island §42-46-5(a) (1) (2) Teacher negotiations. Mrs. Winters seconded the motion which passed 5-0.

Those in attendance were Mr. David Green, Chair; Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice-Chair; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Ms. Carolyn Mark; Mr. Jack Sommer, and Mrs. Susan Records (arrived at 6:21p.m.) Mr. Clark Smith was absent. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration, and Attorney Matthew Oliverio were also in attendance.

7:01p.m. Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

The meeting was already in session.

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

IV. All-State Athletic Recognitions

Recognitions were made to the following First Team All-State students: Marielle Kraft, Aleksandra Drljaca, Kyle Palmer, Skylar LeBlanc, Margaret McCaffrey, and Keri Pallister.

V. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular and executive for January 8, 2013

On a motion by Mrs. Records, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the regular and executive minutes for January 8, 2013. Mrs. Winters abstained.

VI. Superintendent's Report

The Rhode Island Education Association will hold their meeting at Cole Middle School on February 12, 2013 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Dr. Mercurio will offer comments on behalf of the district. All School Committee members are welcome to attend. On Saturday, January 26, 2013, Rhode Island Middle Level Educators (RIMLE) will hold a professional development session at Cole Middle School. Commissioner Gist will be present and Dr. Mercurio will offer welcome remarks. The Cole music students will perform during the brunch. All School Committee members are welcome to attend. The community flu clinic that was held at Cole Middle School on January 15, 2013 was successful. Two-hundred ninety-nine vaccinations were given out (124 students and 175 adults). Sixteen pneumonia and thirty-six T-Dap vaccines were also given out.

VII. School Committee Concerns

Mrs. Winters questioned the status of safety measures in each school. Dr. Mercurio said the district is continuing to work on safety issues monitoring the inside and outside envelopes. Last week Hanaford School had a lock down drill that was coordinated with the police department. The East Greenwich Police Department is working with all schools to review protocol and lockdown procedures. Dr. Mercurio met with a group of teachers from Cole to discuss concerns and school security. Mrs. Winters raised questions about Meadowbrook door locks. Dr. Mercurio said the locks will be changed. Mrs. Winters also asked for a timeline on completion of suggested changes. Dr. Mercurio expects a report from the police department in early February. Mr. Green would like a follow-up report at the next meeting on February 5, 2013.

VIII. Action Items

a. Appointments

- 1. EGHS Boys' Swim-Head Coach- Regina Hand**
- 2. EGHS Boys' and Girls' Volunteer Swim Coach-Kelly Lamoreaux**
- 3. EGHS Boys' Hockey-Asst Coach-Chad Wingren**

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve all appointments.

b. Resignation

- 1. Lynn Martin-Paraprofessional-Hanaford**

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Dr. Gifford, the Committee voted 6-0 to accept the resignation.

c. East Greenwich High School Program of Studies

Mr. Podraza gave the Committee a summary of suggested changes

to the Program of Studies. Most changes are to align with Common Core State Standards. Mr. Downey, the Health and Physical Education Chair, discussed the proposed changes for curriculum instruction and implementation for Health and Physical Education. The staff proposed combining both Health and Physical Education during the same semester. Mr. Downey discussed the many benefits of this change. Mr. Podraza discussed the need to add Pre-Algebra to the Program of Studies. Mrs. Winters discussed her concerns in regards to supporting students (in math) at Cole and requested further information. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Sommer, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the East Greenwich High School Program of Studies.

IX. 1:1 Initiative Presentation

Mr. Podraza, Mr. Chace, Ms. Pontarelli, Mr. Rath, and Mr. Revkin presented the Committee with a 1:1 Initiative Plan for the 2013-2014 school year. The benefits of a 1:1 environment were discussed in detail. Dr. Mercurio gave an overview of the cost of a 1:1 implementation which totals approximately \$550,750. This cost includes iPads, Smart Cases, and professional development. Dr. Mercurio also discussed the Apple Equity Leasing program and the technology and human capital needed. Potential cost reductions and reallocation due to iPads were also discussed. The Committee had numerous questions regarding the life cycle of iPads and the insurance needed. Dr. Gifford would like to review other district priorities such as full day kindergarten and language proposals before making a decision on 1:1 devices. Mr. Green said

this presentation was needed due to the budget season and the need for a projected cost.

X. Revised Budget Schedule FY2014

The proposed January 24, 2013 budget meeting was eliminated. The administration budget workshop was combined with the February 5, 2013 School Committee meeting. On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Mrs. Records, the Committee voted 5-0 to approve the revised budget schedule. Mrs. Winters was not present for this vote.

XI. Overview of FY2014 Budget

Dr. Mercurio provided an overview of the FY2014 budget process noting Finance Committee members met with their respective budget owner. Major expenditure estimate increases, human capital expenditures, and opportunities and challenges were reviewed. Enrollment history, projections, and the age of each facility were also discussed. Enrollment projections are based on the expectation that 20% of the East Greenwich student population will remain in private schools.

XII. School Committee Advisory and Subcommittee reports

a. Finance Committee- Mr. Sommer, Chair

Mr. Sommer said the FY2014 budget is being wrapped up with final reports coming from Mrs. Crawford. Mr. Sommer will set up a Finance Committee meeting.

b. Technology Committee-Mrs. Records, Chair

Mrs. Records noted the last meeting was to discuss the 1:1 initiative. She will schedule another meeting.

c. Building/Facilities Committee-Mr. Sommer, Chair

Mr. Sommer will set up a meeting next month.

d. Fields' Committee-Mrs. Winters, Chair

Mrs. Winters needs to schedule a meeting with members of the town.

e. Personnel Committee-Mr. Green, Chair

Mr. Green will schedule a meeting on February 1 or February 8, 2013.

The topics for discussion are the Superintendent's evaluation and upcoming administrator contracts.

f. Policy Committee-Dr. Gifford, Chair

The last Policy Committee meeting finalized the Personnel Assignment Policy. Meetings for the balance of the year have been scheduled. Dr. Gifford would like to finish all revisions to the policy manual.

g. Health & Wellness-Mrs. Records, Chair

The Health and Wellness Committee is meeting this Friday to discuss various topics including Eldredge and district health initiatives. Mr. Houghtaling will attend to discuss mental health issues. Mrs. Records would like to review the charge for the Health and Wellness Committee to determine whether health education is included.

h. Ad-Hoc Electronic Meeting Committee-Mr. Sommer, Chair

Mr. Sommer gave the Committee a summary of the findings and recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Committee. Mr. Green would like the Committee to review the recommendations and discuss at a future meeting.

XIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Sommer, which was seconded by Ms. Mark, the Committee voted 6-0 to adjourn at 9:28p.m.

**CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO
SECRETARY**